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# Kissinger Denies Charges of Duplicity

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Former secretary of state Henry A. Kissinger angrily denied charges that he provided inside information to both candidates in the 1968 presidential election and branded the allegations in a new book by a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist "a slimy lie."

"The Price of Power," by Seymour M. Hersh, a former reporter for The New York Times and the Associated Press, describes Kissinger's career in the Nixon White House from 1969 to 1973, when he was named secretary of state after Nixon's reelection.

Neither Nixon nor Kissinger agreed to be interviewed by Hersh for the book.

In the book, Hersh alleges that, during the 1968 presidential campaign between Richard M. Nixon and Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, Kissinger offered his help to both sides in hope of securing a White House post.

Kissinger, according to Hersh's account, offered to share derogatory files about Nixon with the Humphrey campaign and offered inside information about President Lyndon B. Johnson's conduct of the Vietnam war to Nixon's people.

Kissinger, appearing on ABC's "Nightline" program late Wednesday, was read brief portions of the book containing the charges. He said that, although he has not read the book, "What you have read is a slimy lie."

Kissinger, who initially worked in the primary campaign of New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, was reported in the book to have offered Rockefeller's files to Humphrey's campaign.

"I have called the top aides in [Humphrey's] campaign. They have never heard of it," Kissinger said.

Kissinger, clearly angered, said, "I

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have said all I have to say on the subject," but then added that Hersh's allegations were "untrue, distorted or [Hersh] uses totally interested witnesses, many who [were] dismissed after a year on my staff."

"I think it is a disgrace," Kissinger said.

Hersh, appearing yesterday on

NBC's "Today" show, said he interviewed 1,000 people, including some in the CIA, the State Department and the National Security Council, to gather information for his book.

After viewing a videotape of Kissinger's remarks, Hersh said: "Now, for the story about the double-dealing [with Humphrey and Nixon], I

quote John Mitchell by name. I quote Richard Allen who was the national security adviser by name. I talked to people who worked inside the Humphrey camp by name."